Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inter-city trains presently in operation in the State of Bihar with details thereof;

(b) the number of them connected with industrial areas of the State;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to increase the number of inter-city trains in Bihar in the near future; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The following Express trains provide day time service for different towns/ cities of Bihar :—

(1) 3029/3030 Howrah-Dhanbad Coalfield Express.

(2) 3317/3318 Howrah-Dhanbad Black Diamond Express.

(3) 8625/8626 Patna-Hatia Express.

(4) 2883/2884 Patna-Tata Express.

(5) 3301/3302 Dhanbad-Tata Express.

(6) 8011/8012 Howrah-Rourkela Ispat Express.

(7) 8013/8014 Howrah-Tata Steel Express.

(8) 5719/5720 Katihar-Siliguri Express.

(b) 7 pairs.

(c) and (d) 3301/3302 Dhanbad-Tatanagar Express has been introduced and the run of Patliputra Express has been extended to/from Hatia from 1-7-93. There is at present no proposal for introduction of any new train for/from Bihar.

पश्चिम बंगाल में सियालदह स्टेशन के सामने यार्ड को विकसित किया जाना

2990. **श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पश्चिमी-बंगाल सरकार द्वारा सियालदह स्टेशन के सामने यार्ड को विकसित किये जाने की कोई योजना आपके विभाग को भेजी गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है और इस योजना के क्रियान्वयन की दिशा में कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. सी. लेंका) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Changing the Arrival Timing of Inter-City Express

2991. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to change the arrival timing of newly introduced Inter-City Express between Agra Cantt. to Hazarat Nizamuddin from the present 1000 A.M. to 0900 A.M.;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational exigencies.

Introduction of Season Tickets for Distance up to 225 Kms.

2992. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to introduce monthly season tickets for daily passengers travelling for a maximum distance 225 Kms.;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Season tickets are issued up to a distance of 150 Kms. on the basis of the recommendations of RTEC, 1979. However, as a legacy of the past, season tickets are issued on certain sections beyond 150 Kms. also where such facility existed before 1951, There is no proposal to introduce monthly season tickets up to 225 Kms., as a policy.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Season tickets are highly concessional. The charges for a second class Monthly Season Ticket ranges between 9 and 20 single journey fares. It is not desirable to extend the existing distance limit of 150 Kms. and thereby expands the scope of concession.

Data of Staff Working in Railway Board

2993. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether any data is available to indicate

total number of staff cadre-wise and officers level-wise working in Railway Board as on 31st July, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof separately category-wise;

(c) whether any data is also available to indicate total number of staff and officers having their State Railway Provident Fund in Board's Office;

(d) whether SRPF Accounts are maintained with some system/modality;

(e) whether updating of these accounts is done every year in September by 5 to 10 Non-Gazetted Staff;

(f) whether Government propose to feed these accounts in Personal Computers for benefit and convenient of staff and officers to lessen the work of staff working on these accounts; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The details of Officers and staff working in Railway Board as on 31st July, 1993 is as under:

I. Group 'A'	
(i) Board Members	06
(ii) Secretary, Railway Board	01
(iii) Advisers	17
(iv) Director General	02
(v) Executive Directors/Joint Secretaries (SAG)	66
(vi) Directors/Joint Secretaries (SG)	57
(vii) Jt. Directors/Dy. Secretaries	46
(viii) Dy. Directors/Under Secretaries	64
(ix) Principal Private Secretaries	07
(x) Misc. (ex-cadre)	24
II. Group 'B'	
(i) Section Officers/Desk Officers	199
(ii) Private Secretaries	101
(iii) Misc. (ex-cadre)	47
III. Group 'B' (Non-Gazetted)	
(i) Assistants	345
(ii) Personal Assistants	161
IV. Group 'C'	
(i) Hindi Assistants	37
(ii) Upper Division Clerks	149
(iii) Stenographers	151
(iv) Lower Division Clerks	207
(v) Misc. (ex-cadre), Technical Assistants, Inspectors, Drivers, Telephone Operators, Roneo Operators, Draftsmen, Canteen Staff, etc.	560
V. Group 'D'	
(i) Daftary, Jamadar, Peon, Khalasi, Mali, Cleaner, Farash, etc.	581

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir

(g) Computerisation of State Railway Provident Fund Accounts of staff working in Railway Board is under process.

Experts Panel on Railways

2994. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have set up an Experts Panel to study the organisation and structure of the Railways handed by a former Chairman of the NCAER;

(b) whether this panel would also study ways and means of bringing down the cost of paid travel; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Study of steps to be taken at the managerial levels to provide cost effective customer service forms part of the terms of reference.

(c) Does not arise.

Introduction of a Pilgrim Train

2995. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider the introduction of a pilgrim train which would exclusively touch the religious centres in South India;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to facilitate travellers and pilgrims to visit pilgrim centres in the South by train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No Sir.